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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 616  
By Winningham

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Ray and JoAnn Shoemaker on  
the celebration of their 50th wedding  
anniversary.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly takes great pleasure in paying tribute to those  
successful marriages that have stood the test of time to serve as examples for present and  
future generations; and

WHEREAS, on July 16, 1949 in Rossville, Georgia, Ray and JoAnn Shoemaker were  
joined in holy matrimony, and since that fateful day this outstanding couple has faced the world  
as one, basking in the glow of their love for each other during both life's joys and sorrows; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Shoemaker are highly respected citizens of their  
community; they are the very epitome of good neighbors, as they always endeavor to treat  
others as they would like to be treated; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Shoemaker served with acumen and alacrity in the interstate  
construction industry for several years, and now owns a local business that he has operated for  
more than 30 years; he has earned respect and admiration from his peers for the superior  
quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Shoemaker are partners in most every aspect of life; JoAnn served astutely as a bookkeeper for a local company for more than 25 years, and now works alongside her husband in their business; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Shoemaker is actively involved in numerous civic organizations in the county; he and his devoted wife are valued members of the First Baptist Church of Robbins where Ray serves with probity as treasurer and JoAnn donates her remarkable talents as the clerk and organist; and

WHEREAS, this fine couple's praiseworthy marriage has produced one son, Alan Ray Shoemaker who has excelled in his professional endeavors; he married Velta Mae Tinch on July 3, 1969; and

WHEREAS, the Shoemakers are also the proud grandparents of Ethan Alan and Jeremy Ray Shoemaker; and

WHEREAS, for 50 years this blessed union has grown and prospered as an expression of time-honored family values and selfless love; the Shoemakers celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on July 16, 1999 with their family and friends in attendance at Elgin Community Center; and

WHEREAS, marriages such as the Shoemakers' are truly the rock-solid foundation upon which our society is built and a beacon of sanity and continuity in these turbulent times; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby pause to honor and congratulate Ray and JoAnn Shoemaker on the celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary and extend to them our best wishes for much continued happiness in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.